

With 21 locations in Erie, Niagara, and Monroe Counties, West Herr has 23 franchises and over 1,900 employees. In 2015, the company sold more than 46,000 new and used vehicles. West Herr prides itself on dealing honestly and fairly with customers and employees, a philosophy shared throughout all levels of the organization. West Herr builds their reputation on excellence, customer satisfaction and an understanding of their roots. All owners live in Western New York and actively manage the 21 locations on a daily basis.

Their customer and employee satisfaction efforts have earned them countless awards. West Herr has received Business First of Buffalo "Best Place to Work in WNY" Award for eleven consecutive years and the Better Business Bureau's "Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics" six times. In 2012, the group was recognized nationally as one of the "Best Dealerships to Work For" through Automotive News. Additionally, the Buffalo News recognized West Herr as a Top Workplace in its inaugural year for the program.

I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating West Herr on receiving the Retail Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. Their contributions to Western New York and commitment to quality service is commendable and I wish them continued success.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF DANA NESSEL

#### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dana Nessel, whose commitment to justice and equality has impacted the people of Michigan and citizens across the United States.

Dana is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Wayne State University Law School and spent more than a decade working as an assistant prosecuting attorney for Wayne County, serving much of her tenure in special assignment units. She specialized in domestic homicides, child physical and sexual abuse cases, and investigations into police shootings and in-custody deaths of civilians. She is currently managing partner at Nessel and Kessel in Detroit, where she specializes in criminal defense and family law.

In 2012, Dana championed the cause of marriage equality by initiating the case which challenged Michigan's ban on same-sex second party adoption, the case which would ultimately bring this important issue before the Supreme Court. The landmark decision of this case granted the dignity so many sought for so long: the right to commit to the person they love. Today, Dana continues to defend the rights of the LGBT community by pushing for protections against discrimination in state law across the country.

Dana is this year's recipient of the Honorable Kaye Tertzag Purple Sport Coat Award. Given to those, who, like Judge Tertzag, show devotion and service to our Michigan community, Dana exemplifies his well-known motto: "Be Prompt. Be Prepared. Be Polite."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Dana Nessel for her service to Michigan and our nation and wish her many years of success.

#### HONORING LESLIE ZEMSKY FOR RECEIVING THE AMHERST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WOMAN OF DISTINCTION AWARD

#### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mrs. Leslie Zemsky as she receives the Amherst Chamber of Commerce's Woman of Distinction Award. An artist, community leader, and Director of Fun for Larkin Square, Leslie has played an instrumental role in revitalizing the Larkin District and the City of Buffalo.

As Larkin Square's Director of Fun, Leslie partners with her husband Howard Zemsky and Joe Petrella to lead the Larkin Development Group. The group has renovated a number of former warehouse buildings which were once part of the Larkin Soap Company.

Since 2002, the Larkin Development Group's renovations include more than 800,000 square feet of office space, more than a half mile of streetscape improvements and a public gathering space for events called Larkin Square. Thanks to their creative vision, the Larkin District, now known fondly as Larkinville, has returned to its roots as a vibrant, mixed-use neighborhood, home to offices, residences, restaurants, parks and public gathering spaces like Larkin Square.

Under Leslie's leadership Larkinville has become a destination. Nearly every day of the week, thousands gather in Larkin Square for events such as Food Truck Tuesdays, Live at Larkin Wednesdays and the Larkin Square Author Talks. The neighborhood continues to evolve and grow with the opening of Flying Bison Brewery and Hydraulic Hearth Restaurant & Brewery, run by Leslie's son Harry. The rebirth of Larkinville has played a leading role in the rebirth of Buffalo. Larkinville has gained national attention, from the Congress for New Urbanism to earning praise from journalist Katie Couric during her recent visit to Buffalo.

My Buffalo District office is located in the Larkin at Exchange Building, and we've witnessed an incredible transformation due in no small part to Leslie. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating her for receiving the Woman of Distinction Award, expressing our deepest gratitude for her vision and efforts, and wishing her all the best in her future endeavors.

#### CALLING UPON THE SENATE TO FULFILL CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY TO VOTE ON JUSTICE SCALIA'S SUCCESSOR

#### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, ten days ago, on February 13, 2016, the nation was saddened to learn of the death of Justice Antonin Scalia, the senior Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

Justice Scalia, who loved the Court, served it ably for nearly 30 years and was involved in some of the most consequential cases in history.

Mr. Speaker, I urge those who revered Justice Scalia, cherish his memory, and wish to do honor to the work of his life, to join me in calling upon the Senate, and every senator, to discharge their constitutional duty to advise and consent (or not consent) to the nomination that will be put forward by the President by holding an up or down vote.

Mr. Speaker, those who claim there is an 80 year precedent against confirming a Supreme Court nominee during an election year and that there is not sufficient time to fill the vacancy are incorrect.

The most recent instance where there was a vacancy on the Supreme Court in an election year occurred not 80 but 28 years ago, in 1988, during the administration of President Reagan.

That vacancy was filled on February 3, 1988 by the appointment of Justice Anthony Kennedy who was confirmed 97-0 by a Democrat-controlled Senate.

The Kennedy nomination is the controlling precedent, as Justice Scalia would recognize.

In fact, Justice Scalia would say to anyone claiming otherwise, "Leges posteriores priores contrarias abrogant," which is Latin for the canon of judicial interpretation that "the last expression of the people prevails."

There are 332 days left in President Obama's term, which is more than sufficient time for the President to nominate, and for the Senate to consider and vote to confirm or reject his nominee.

Since 1900, there have been 60 Supreme Court vacancies.

The average time taken to fill these 60 vacancies is 73 days, which is less than 25% of the time remaining in the President's term.

The average time to fill each of the 13 vacancies since 1975 is a mere 67 days.

And of the current members of the Supreme Court, the average time is 74 days, the longest being the 99 days taken to confirm the controversial nomination of Justice Clarence Thomas in October 1991.

Mr. Speaker, as is often noted, elections have consequences.

They also impose responsibilities and duties.

And one of the most important duties imposed by the Constitution on the President is to nominate persons to fill vacancies on the Supreme Court and for the Senate to consider those nominations with dispatch.

The Supreme Court is the nation's highest court and its essential and indispensable role in our constitutional system is to provide definitive interpretations of American law and the Constitution.

Its decisions are the law of the land binding in every state and territory.

It is the only judicial tribunal capable of providing the legal clarity and certainty required for the legal system to function and give meaning to the rule of law.

President Obama has announced that he intends to fulfill the responsibility devolved upon him by the Constitution and will submit to the Senate a nominee to fill the large shoes left by the late Justice Antonin Scalia.

The Senate should fulfill its constitutional duty to advise and consent, or withhold its consent, by casting an up or down vote on that nomination.

That is the way to pay fitting tribute to Justice Scalia, to honor the Constitution, and to keep faith with the American people.